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January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

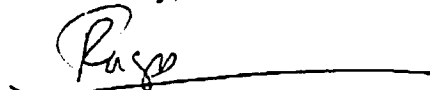
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to you today to express my support of the settlement reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. The inception of this case by the federal government marks the initial decline in the technology industries seen in recent years. Despite modest recoveries last year, the IT sector has flailed in direct relation to this litigation process. The settlement of this case, conversely, would certainly increase confidence in the industry. Given the state of the economy at the present, this would be the best path to follow at this time.

Furthermore, the details of this settlement encourage important change in the industry as well. Microsoft has agreed to make protocols implemented in the Windows operating system products to be disclosed to its competitors. This will be available to competitors on "reasonable and non-discriminatory" grounds. Thus, competitors will now have the information necessary to develop software that is increasingly compatible with the Windows system.

Thank you so much for your concern regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Joanne', followed by a horizontal line.

Joanne Bellamy